

For Immediate Release

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Milwaukee County to Participate in Milwaukee County Breastfeeding Coalition Community Walk Sat., Aug. 6th

County Executive Chris Abele Issues Proclamation in Honor of National Breastfeeding

Awareness Month

MILWAUKEE – Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele today proclaimed August as National Breastfeeding Awareness Month, and County officials, to include County Board Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, will participate in the Milwaukee County Breastfeeding Coalition's Community Walk and "Big Latch On" event this Saturday, August 6th.

Last month, the County Board approved unanimously and the county executive was proud to sign into law a bill co-sponsored by Sups. Marina Dimitrijevic, Sheldon Wasserman, and Deanna Alexander that supports and encourages the practice of breastfeeding by providing adequate accommodations and a supportive environment for breastfeeding employees as well as the public.

The event kicks off with a Community Walk at 9:45am, beginning at Alice's Garden, 2136 N 21st St, Milwaukee, and ending at Fondy Market, 2200 W Fond Du Lac Ave, Milwaukee. At 10:30am, the "Big Latch On" will commence at the Fondy Market. The event is free and open to the public and the media.

The "Big Latch On" is a global event intended to raise awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding for mothers, babies, and communities, increase support for breastfeeding mothers, and normalize breastfeeding in public spaces.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) states that the risks of not breastfeeding are so conclusive that breastfeeding "should <u>not</u> be considered as a lifestyle choice but rather as a basic health issue," yet many mothers face obstacles to breastfeeding, such as lack of support from their employers and the community.

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